



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/754,903	01/04/2001	William Joshua Price	M-8502 US	3943

7590 01/13/2004

DAVID C. HSIA
PATENT LAW GROUP LLP
2635 NORTH FIRST STREET
SUITE 223
SAN JOSE, CA 95134-2049

EXAMINER

PHAN, RAYMOND NGAN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2111

DATE MAILED: 01/13/2004

9

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SK

Office Action Summary

Applicati n N .

09/754,903

Applicant(s)

PRICE, WILLIAM JOSHUA

Examiner

Raymond Phan

Art Unit

2111

-- The MAILING DATE of this c mmunication appears on the cover sh et with th c rrespondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,6,7 and 9-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 4,7,9-11 and 13-15 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,6 and 12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____ 6) ☐ Other: ____.

Part III DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant(s)

1. This action is responsive to the following communications: amendment filed on October 15, 2003.
2. This application has been examined. Claims 1-4, 6-7, 915 are pending.
3. The Group and/or Art Unit location of your application in the PTO has changed. To aid in correlating any papers for this application, all further correspondence regarding this application should be directed to Group Art Unit 2111.

Specification

4. The title of the invention is accepted.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-3, 6 and 12, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Son (US No. 6,233,635) in view of Byers et al. (US No. 5,422,915).

In regard to claims 1, 12, Son discloses a device comprising a first plurality of bus slave devices coupled to first I2C bus 0 (see figure 4, col. 4, lines 7-26); a second bus (i.e. secondary bus 1) coupled to the plurality of elements (see figure 4,

col. 4, lines 7-26); a first controller (i.e. master) coupled to the third bus (i.e. primary bus) (see figure 4, col. 4, lines 7-26); and a first multiplexer operable to selectively coupled the first or the second bus to the third bus so the first controller can communicate with the first or the second plurality of elements (see figure 4, col. 4, lines 7-46). But Son does not disclose the plurality of elements powered by the first power domain and second power domain. However Byers et al. disclose the plurality of circuits powered by the first power domain and second power domain (see figure 5, col. 10, line 35 through col. 11, line 18). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Byers et al. within the system of Son because it would provide security against the power loss and ensure the data integrity.

In regard to claim 2, Son discloses wherein the first, the second, the third buses are I2C buses (see figure 4).

In regarding of claims 3, 6, even though the teachings of Son does not specifically disclose the elements 43-48 as the first temperature sensor, memory, backplane controller, however one skilled in the art would have understood that they can choose to implement different type of elements to fulfill their need (see col. 3, lines 22-30).

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 4, 7, 9-11, 13-15 are allowed over the prior arts of records.

Response to Amendment

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 12 have been considered but claims 1 and 12 are deemed to be moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

Applicant's arguments, see 9-11, filed on October 15, 2003, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1 and 12 under 35 USC 102 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Byers et al..

Conclusion

9. Claims 1-3, 6, 12 are rejected. Claims 4, 7, 9-11, 13-15 are allowed.

10. The prior arts made of record and not relied upon are considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Neal et al. (US No. 6,338,107) disclose a method and system for providing hot plug of adapter cards in an expanded slot environment.

Berthaud et al. (US No. 6,625,736) disclose a system for automatically determining a number of power supplies are required by managing changes of the power requirements in a power consuming system.

Byers et al. (US No. 5,664,089) disclose a multiple power domain power loss detection and interface disable.

Wiscombe et al. (US No. 5,668,417) disclose a method and apparatus for distinguishing between failure of a power supply vs failure of its power source from the secondary of power supply.

Art Unit: 2111

Henrie (US No. 6,000,042) discloses a fault detection on a dual supply system for a USB system.

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner Raymond Phan, whose telephone number is (703) 306-2756. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 6:30AM- 4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's Primary, Paul Myers can be reached on (703) 305-9656 or via e-mail addressed to paul.myers@uspto.gov. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 746-7239.

Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [raymond.phan@uspto.gov].

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.



Raymond Phan

12/21/03